

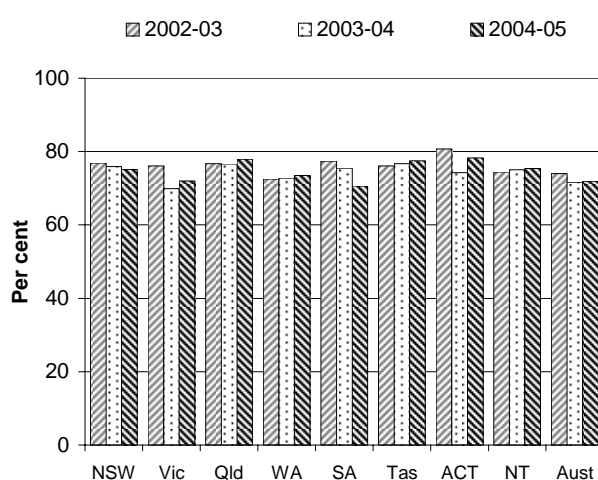
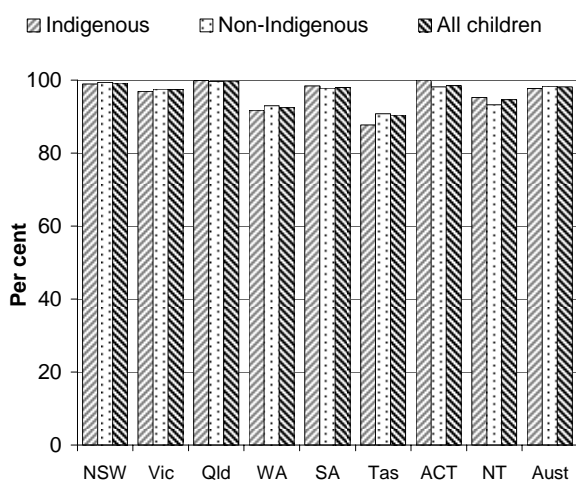
PROTECTION AND SUPPORT SERVICES (CHAPTER 15)

- This chapter reports on child protection, out-of-home care, and supported accommodation and assistance services.
- Total recurrent expenditure on child protection and out-of-home care across Australia was \$1230.8 million in 2004-05 (p. 15.10). Recurrent expenditure on the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) was \$309.9 million across Australia in 2004-05 (p. 15.43).
- Around 160 000 children aged 0–16 years were the subject of child protection notifications in 2004-05 (p. 15.8). At 30 June 2005, 25 065 children were on care and protection orders (p. 15.9), and approximately 23 700 children were in out-of-home care (p. 15.10). There were around 100 400 SAAP clients in 2004-05 (table 15A.190).

Selection of results

Proportion of children aged under 12 years in out-of-home care and in a home based placement, by Indigenous status, 30 June 2005 (p. 15.24)

Proportion of former clients who did not return to a SAAP service within 12 months of exiting the program (p. 15.64)



See over for data and footnotes.

See over for data.

- The national figure for the proportion children aged under 12 years in out-of-home care and in a home based placement, at 30 June 2005 (as a proportion of all children under 12 years in out-of-home care) is 98.2 per cent (p. 15.24). The proportion of former clients who did not return to a SAAP service within 12 months of exiting the program in 2004-05 was 71.9 per cent (p. 15.63).
- Placing children with their relatives or kin is generally preferred for all children in out-of-home care. The proportion of all children placed with relatives or kin (at 30 June 2005) was 39.8 per cent nationally (p. 15.23 and table 15A.16).

- Placing Indigenous children in circumstances consistent with the Aboriginal Child Placement Principle is generally considered to be in their best interests. The proportion of Indigenous children in out-of-home care at 30 June 2005 who were placed with extended family or other Indigenous carer was 76.7 per cent nationally (p. 15.26 and table 15A.17). Other significant indicators include stability of placement (pp. 15.19–21) and child protection and out-of-home care efficiency indicators (pp. 15.30–34).
- SAAP indicators include access for those seeking SAAP services (pp. 15.46–51), existence of a support plan for SAAP clients (p. 15.52), SAAP efficiency indicators (pp. 15.55–59), client's labour force status (pp. 15.61–62) and income source (pp. 15.65–66) after receiving SAAP services.

Progress since the 2005 Report

This Report continues to refine and improve the indicators that are reported in the Protection and support services chapter.

Data for charts on previous page

Proportion of children aged under 12 years in out-of-home care and in a home based placement, by Indigenous status, 30 June 2005 (as a proportion of all children under 12 years in out-of-home care)^{a, b}

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
Indigenous	99.0	96.9	99.9	91.8	98.4	87.8	100.0	95.2	97.8
Non-Indigenous	99.4	97.5	99.6	93.0	97.8	90.8	98.2	93.2	98.3
All children	99.2	97.4	99.7	92.5	98.0	90.4	98.5	94.6	98.2

^a Family group homes are not classified as being home based care ^b The percentage of children under 12 years in home-based placements was calculated using as the denominator the total number of children under 12 years old in out-of-home placement, by Indigenous status, at 30 June where placement type was known.

Source: AIHW Children in Out-of-Home Care, Australia, data collection (unpublished); table 15A.18.

Proportion of former clients who did not return to a SAAP service within 12 months of exiting the program

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
2002-03	76.9	76.1	76.7	72.5	77.4	76.1	80.7	74.4	74.0
2003-04	75.9	69.9	76.6	72.8	75.5	76.7	74.3	75.0	71.6
2004-05	75.1	72.0	77.9	73.5	70.6	77.5	78.3	75.4	71.9

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections (unpublished); table 15A.188.

[END]

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Please do not approach other parties for comment before Monday 30 January 2006.

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Tables with an 'A' prefix (eg table 15.A5) are in the electronic attachments on the CD-ROM or on the Review website.